

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The final Office Action of February 19, 2004 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 2, 19 and 20. Claims 36 and 37 are withdrawn as the result of the Examiner's constructive election in the Office Action of February 19, 2004. Accordingly, claims 1-10, 19-25 and 34-37 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 19 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,072,550); rejected claims 1-10, 20-21, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Applicants' Related Art (ARA); rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Choi (U.S. Patent No. 5,060,036). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The rejection of claims 19 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 19 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 19 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "forming a short-prevention member on the insulating layer and over an edge of the gate line... wherein the short-prevention member is disposed to prevent electric shorts in the data line." Kim does not teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 19, and claims 22-24, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. See M.P.E.P. § 2131. In the Office Action on page 3, the Examiner states, "forming a short-prevention member 113 on the insulating layer 112 and over an edge of the gate line 11, 111 (Figs. 4 and 6)." Applicants respectfully submit that, as best understood, the semiconductor layer 113 is formed over the gate electrode 111 as the channel region of the thin film transistor, but the semiconductor layer 113 is not formed over an edge of the gate line 11 in Kim. See Figs.

4 and 6 of Kim.

The rejection of claims 1-10, 20-21, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of ARA is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a short-prevention member on the insulating layer, over the edge, and between the at least two conductive members... wherein the short-prevention member prevents electric shorts between the at least two conductive members caused by residual material that extends along the edge.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-10 and 34, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that to establish a prima facie case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the prior art references when combined must at least teach or suggest all the claim elements. For at least the similar reasons as discussed with respect to claim 19, Kim does not teach or suggest at least the feature cited above. Applicants further respectfully submit that, since ARA fails to cure the deficiencies of Kim, claim 1, and claims 2-10 and 34, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that, since ARA fails to cure the deficiencies of Kim, claims 20, 21 and 35 are also allowable.

The rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Choi is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 25 depends from claim 19, which is allowable over Kim as discussed above. Because Choi fails to cure the deficiencies of Kim, claim 25 is also allowable.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496 - 7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: May 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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4 and 6 of Kim.

The rejection of claims 1-10, 20-21, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of ARA is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a short-prevention member on the insulating layer, over the edge, and between the at least two conductive members... wherein the short-prevention member prevents electric shorts between the at least two conductive members caused by residual material that extends along the edge.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-10 and 34, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

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The rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Choi is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 25 depends from claim 19, which is allowable over Kim as discussed above. Because Choi fails to cure the deficiencies of Kim, claim 25 is also allowable.

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